

Epidemic Expected Soon In Michigan

Free Booze A Thing Of Past For Flu Victims

DETROIT (AP) — Michiganders can expect an epidemic of "London flu" this winter, but they can't expect the free 80 and 100 proof "medicine" the federal government supplied during prohibition.

Now, medical experts say, they'll either have to buy their own booze or use aspirin.

Local health officials who predict the flu, which has already struck neighboring states, say there has been no indication of a flu upsurge here yet. But, they point out the major measuring sticks used to determine an epidemic's

proportions — schools and the automobile plants — are closed for the holidays.

In 1920, however, the flu was so bad the government released seized bootleg alcohol to the prohibition-bound sufferers through doctors.

"Free whisky to fight flu — Uncle Sam will dispense enough to reputable doctors for whole epidemic," was how one Detroit newspaper headlined the government's medical aid program.

Henry Behrendt, U.S. Marshall in Detroit in 1920, asked the

government to release the liquor to doctors "for use in fighting the influenza and pneumonia epidemic."

The government okayed the request, but cautioned doctors it should only "be used for legitimate purposes," and told them to exercise "great care to prevent abuse."

Behrendt said the whisky would be given free to the doctors "who would be expected to give it in turn to their patients without charge."

Although the actual amount of booze dispensed was never released, Behrendt would only say there was enough "to fight

the whole epidemic."

Epidemics aren't fought that way anymore, at least not according to the medical books.

Now, research scientists throughout the world are developing new vaccines to counter the ever-changing flu viruses which occasionally hit the world.

The "London flu" is considered by many medical men as another variation of the "Spanish flu" which took 850,000

(See back page, sec. 1, col. 1)



DENISE WHO? She's three years old, her name is Denise and her "Mommy" told her not to tell anyone her last name. She hasn't, and suburban Genesee township police near Flint are looking for Mrs. Helen Gaynor of Gladwin who left the child — not her own — with her mother, Mrs. Lottie Palmer, 72. She is unable to care for her and the child is now staying in a foster home while the search for the real mother goes on. (AP Wirephoto)

Won't Tell Name Tot's Kin Hunted

FLINT, Mich. (AP)—Police say 3-year-old Denise, who was abandoned earlier this month and refuses to break her mother's command not to reveal her last name, may be from Milwaukee.

Lt. Rodney Stephens of nearby Genesee Township police said today he is trying to get in touch with a Milwaukee man named Lasher who called Flint police and identified himself as the girl's step grandfather.

Denise was turned over to police Dec. 10 by 72-year-old Lottie Palmer, who said her daughter, Helen Gaynor of Gladwin, had left the girl three days earlier saying it was "just for a little while."

Stephens said he has not been able to locate Mrs. Gaynor, but is pursuing a report she is

now living in Midland.

Denise, who has been assigned to foster parents in Burton, described this Christmas as the best one she has ever had, Stephens said. The girl received numerous presents from well-wishers who read about her in the newspapers.

Stephens said the girl is in good spirits. Denise was thin when turned over to police, but she has now started to put on weight, he said.

"She's getting more adjusted as the days go on," Stephens said. "But if anyone comes in the house she get scared they're coming after her."

"There's just no way she wants to go back to her mother," he said.

Truck Slams Church Bus; Nineteen Die

Young People On Outing In New Mexico

FORT SUMNER, N.M. (AP) — A truck loaded with cattle jackknifed on a narrow bridge near here and slammed into a chartered bus carrying a church youth group bound for a holiday ski outing and religious retreat. Authorities said 19 were killed, 16 injured.

The young people were from the Woodlawn Baptist Church

in Austin, Tex.

Ambulance driver Harvey Stinham said the bus "was hit hard enough so that the front end was pushed about halfway through the bus like an accordion. It was torn all to pieces."

The bus wrecked Tuesday night was the second of two school buses carrying the youth group.

The driver of the first bus said that after passing the truck he looked in the rear view mirror and saw the lights of the second bus flash and go out on the bridge.

"I stopped the bus and our leader Ron Killough ran back to see what happened," Roberts said. "I already knew. I stood up in the bus and made an announcement to the kids. I told them, 'You're going to see something you've probably never seen before in your life. If you can't stand to see your brothers and sisters mangled and possibly killed, don't get off the bus.'"

Another ambulance driver said the scene "looked like a disaster area. There were a lot of people down there trying to separate the living from the dead. The windows were all broken out of the bus. Fuel was all over the road."

Frank Stanley, a radio newsman from Clovis, said seats in the bus were torn from their moorings by the impact and the frame of the bus tore loose from the body.

Stanley said: "The bodies were stacked off to the side of the road and covered with blankets or coats. Items normally taken on outings were strewn about — things like backpacks and sleds."

Some of the injured weren't removed from the twisted and fused wreckage of the bus for as long as two hours after the accident. Neither vehicle burned. Traffic was blocked for about six hours.

The accident occurred as two buses carrying a total of about 67 persons crossed the bridge on U.S. 60-84 about 12 miles east of this small eastern New Mexico town. The span is only 25 feet long.

State police said the first bus passed the eastbound cattle truck without incident. The truck then apparently struck the bridge railing and the trailer swung into the path of the second bus.

The buses were heading for Vadito, a New Mexico ski area near a major Baptist assembly site, Gloria.

Jazzman Dead

NEW ORLEANS, La. (AP) — "Offer everybody a drink on me," jazzman John Provenzano said in one of his last words to his family.

The veteran clarinetist died here Tuesday at 75.



WHERE 19 MET DEATH: Seats in this bus carrying a Baptist youth group were ripped from their moorings in collision with cattle truck Tuesday night near Fort Sumner, New Mexico. Nineteen died in the collision. (AP Wirephoto)

Truman Makes Final Journey To Library

INDEPENDENCE, Mo. (AP) — For the final time, Harry S. Truman today travels the half mile from his home to the presidential library that bears his name.

And the nation he led from war into the chill of an uneasy peace will have a day of mourning Thursday to commemorate the man whose dearest wish was to be known as "The People's President."

Richard M. Nixon, the 37th president of the United States, and Lyndon B. Johnson, the 36th, were to be at the library today to bid farewell to the 33rd.

But mostly the honor of paying last respects is reserved for close family and friends and the ordinary people with whom Truman so strongly identified in his 88 years.

There will be little of the pageantry of other state funerals for the former President who died Tuesday. In keeping with Mrs. Truman's wishes, once-elaborate plans were scrapped for rites with simple dignity.

A memorial service is to be held in Washington's National Cathedral within a week after Congress reconvenes Jan. 3 for the dignitaries, American and foreign, who could not be accommodated here.

President Nixon ordered all but essential government agencies closed Thursday and flags to half staff for 30 days.

Mrs. Truman, daughter Margaret and her family, and close friends were to be at a private service in the Carson funeral home this morning.

Then a motorcade was to take the coffin in a direct route from the mortuary, through the streets of Independence that Truman had walked so often to

the library to which he devoted many of his retirement years.

Midway on the route is the Truman home, a modest Victorian mansion, that looks as it did more than 100 years ago except for the fence erected by the Secret Service during Truman's presidency.

There, at the busy intersection of Truman Road and Delaware, the motorcade was to pause briefly and begin the

leg Truman had walked so often, past the homes of neighbors who knew Harry Truman and Bess Wallace as children.

A catafalque was placed in the lobby of the library before a 60-foot mural depicting "Independence and the Opening of the West" and it was there that people could come to say farewell.

The wreath-laying visits of (See back page, sec. 1, col. 1)

U.S. Command Ends Silence On Bombings

SAIGON (AP) — U.S. bombers blasted the Hanoi and Haiphong areas of North Vietnam with more than 1,400 strikes in the past week and devastated scores of military targets, the U.S. Command reported today.

The Command, breaking its silence on the heaviest air attack of the Vietnam war, reported in a special communique that more than a dozen different types of targets were attacked, including some for the first time in the war.

The report covered the period from Dec. 18 until late Dec. 24, when the bombing over the North was halted for a 36-hour Christmas cease-fire. It

was resumed Tuesday afternoon.

The Command also announced the loss of two more planes in the Hanoi-Haiphong blitz, including the 12th B-52 bomber it has admitted losing in the attack.

The U.S. communique said: "Targets struck included railroads, shipyards, command and control facilities, warehouse and trans-shipment points, communications facilities, vehicle repair facilities, power plants, railway bridges, railroad rolling stock, truck parks, MIG bases, air defense radars, and surface-to-air mis-

sile and antiaircraft artillery sites."

North Vietnam charges that the American bombers have also devastated scores of populated areas, wiped out entire villages, killed or wounded thousands of civilians and destroyed hospitals, churches and schools.

The U.S. Command said Air Force, Navy and Marine Corps fighter-bombers made more than 1,000 strikes against the Hanoi and Haiphong industrial complex during the seven-day period, and B-52 heavy bombers made more than 400 strikes.

The 400 B-52 strikes dropped more than 10,000 tons of bombs, the command said, or the

equivalent of 2,000 fighter-bomber strikes.

The command has announced a total of 20 U.S. planes lost in the air offensive against North Vietnam's heartland, with 75 Americans missing, killed or captured. Hanoi claimed eight more B-52s and an F-4 fighter-bomber shot down Tuesday, for a total of 55 planes, including 18 B-52s since the first raid on Dec. 18.

The U.S. Command said the North Vietnamese fired more than 600 surface-to-air missiles during the strikes, the most intense fire American pilots have ever encountered in Indochina.

W. J. Banyon, Editor and Publisher
Berl Lindenfeld, Managing Editor

BANK DIRECTOR
TROT (AP)—E. Joseph
e, president of the Detroit
Bearing Company, was
ed Tuesday to the board of
tors of Detroit Bank &

BH Officials Criticize Model Cities

Two Claim Federally-Funded Program Failing To Meet Expectations For Renewal



MAYOR JOSEPH
Blames Feds



COMMISSIONER BROWN
Says Money Wasted

Bitter criticism over Model Cities failure to attract more funds was aired at last night's Benton Harbor city commission meeting.

The salvos were fired by Commissioner Carl Brown and Mayor Charles Joseph. Brown's blast was trained at the local Model Cities Administration while the mayor blamed the feds and outsiders who have "run the city long enough."

He noted that businessmen were screaming about the snow and that "businessmen seem to get ignored around here. Maybe that's a tradition."

Joseph explained after the meeting that Model Cities, now in its third year, should have brought in \$7 to \$9 million instead of just its annual federal grant of \$1.3 million.

Model Cities grants are intended to be seed money which bring other grants to fruition with other agencies assuming costs. But it hasn't worked out that way, according to Joseph and Brown.

Joseph said he is "displeased with the whole damn way Model Cities is set up by outsiders." He added that local Model Cities administrator Ben Davis shouldn't be blamed because "he's working for two bosses" — a unique partnership with Benton township.

The mayor cracked that the federal government "is just as guilty of ghettoizing Benton Harbor as anyone I know."

Model Cities covers parts of the city and township in a sort of hydra existence involving a citizens steering council, a council of four elected municipal officials, the city commission, the township board and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Model Cities here backs health programs, neighborhood centers, job placement, some educational programs for public schools and paid for paying Waukonda avenue.

Davis admitted Model Cities has not been successful in getting funds from other sources. Brown replied he wasn't satisfied and "personally I think that money has been wasted."

Brown also charged there is "collusion" in Model Cities and others who are "playing a hoax on the city."

Mayor Joseph called Waukonda avenue paving \$400,000 worth of hardware when there are people suffering in Benton Harbor. But he defended Davis, saying he's doing "an excellent job."

Leslie Cripps, director of urban development, explained Waukonda paving will open the door for other grants.

Brown is vice president of Comprehensive Multi-Economic Development Systems (C-MEDS), which has trained hard core unemployed. He has been a frequent critic of Model Cities in his year on the commission. Last night's issue arose when Brown questioned a \$3,062 Model Cities expenditure for purchase of seven IBM typewriters, saying Royals could be bought for much less.

He voted against payment of \$74,457 in Model Cities bills while six other commissioners and the mayor voted for it.

Commissioner Dan Chapman, a representative to the Model Cities council, said unfair things had been said about the program.

Joseph also was critical about snow removal or lack of it on Michigan street.

A. A. Antonovich, director of public services, described the recent ice storm as the worst kind to handle. The city used some 300 tons of salt, almost half a year's supply.

Antonovich said a grader would be a valuable tool in snow removal, but the city's 1952 grader is inoperable and parts are not available.

City Atty. Samuel Henderson informed commissioners they are required to set compensation if any, for the charter



BEN DAVIS
Not Blamed

because he is moving to Sodus township.

Commissioner Edward Merrill said a survey of parking and traffic should be made in the area near Benton Harbor high school before the commission acts on extending the parking limit from two hours to five hours. The matter was referred to the city manager's office.

Bilton and Bilton was awarded contracts for demolition of substandard property at 870 Warwick terrace and 290 Second street on low bids of \$390 and \$490.

Pipestone Office Opens Jan. 8

BH Gets License Bureau

A secretary of state's branch office for the selling of motor vehicle plates will be opened at 239 Pipestone street, Benton Harbor.

Office manager will be T. J. (Jack) Carter who said he expects to open the office Monday, Jan. 8. Carter, 67, is a longtime Benton Harbor

resident, a retired letter carrier and an outgoing Berrien county commissioner.

Carter said the Benton Harbor office will provide all the services of the St. Joseph branch on Niles avenue — except operators' licenses.

Available at the Benton Harbor office will be plates for

private and commercial vehicles, trailers, snowmobile and marine registrations, title transfers and lottery tickets, Carter said.

The office will be located adjacent to OK Electric.

Announcement of the new service was made at last night's City Commission

meeting.

Mayor Charles F. Joseph said location of the branch is the second step in an action program to rejuvenate Benton Harbor — the first being a training program for municipal employees. A request for the office was filed with Secretary of State Richard Austin when he visited Benton Harbor in October, Joseph explained.

The mayor urged patronage of the new office and Carter did likewise, explaining he will work on a commission. Carter also noted there is on-street parking and a city lot nearby. Parking can be a problem at the St. Joseph branch because there is no parking on Niles avenue.

Carter said the branch will be a year-around operation, if business warrants.

Carter presently is being trained at the St. Joseph office. He said he had hoped to open Jan. 4 but will be delayed because of hospitalization of his wife and daughter and death of another relative.

Mayor Joseph called Carter an excellent choice for the job, well known and respected. The mayor said another person is being sought to assist Carter and the branch hopes to employ a handicapped person who can fulfill all the duties of the job. Hours will be 9-5 daily except Wednesdays and Saturdays, 9-1.

Sleigh Used In Burglary

VANDERBILT, Mich. (AP) — Otsego County officials aren't jumping to any conclusions, swearing out warrants or trying to extradite a certain person from the North Pole yet, but they say they did find sleigh tracks at the scene of a Christmas Eve burglary here.

Approximately \$3,000 in watches, chain saws and stereo equipment and \$250 in cash, was stolen from a hardware store and service station in this Northern Michigan community.



T.J. (JACK) CARTER
Office Manager

Convicts Will Get Yule Cans

JACKSON, Mich. (AP) — Convicts at Southern Michigan Prison here will be getting their Christmas cans after all.

Prison officials had refused to admit representatives of the Detroit-based Prisoner Solidarity Committee on Christmas Eve who wanted to deliver 76 cans of cookies, chicken and nuts because they had not followed proper channels.

But Warden Charles Egeler said Tuesday he would make an exception in the case, "now that we have handled gifts from all the families of the prisoners."

Prison rules state presents must be in tin cans, factory packed and vacuum sealed. The cans will be delivered Thursday.

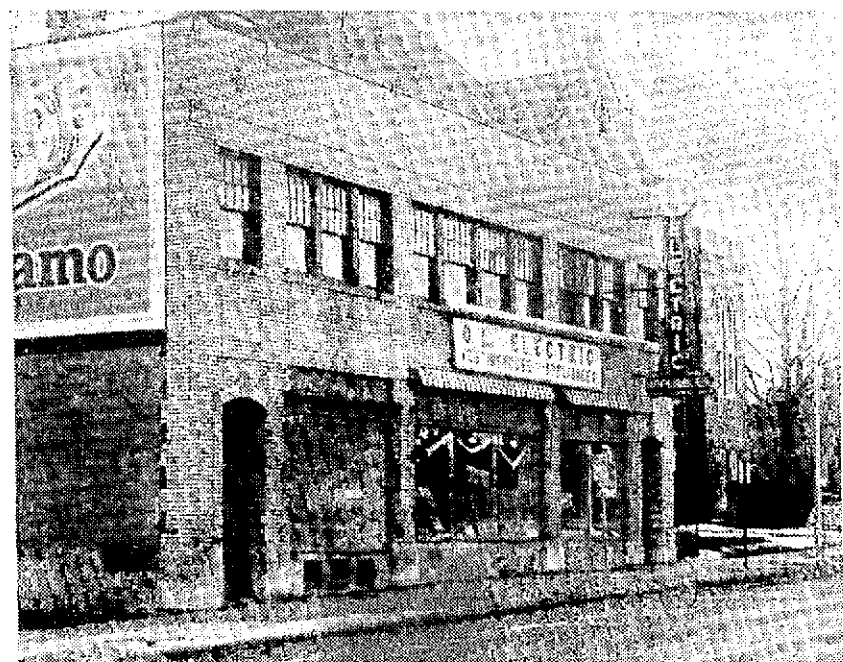
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LICENSE PLATES HERE: A secretary of state's branch office is slated to open here Jan. 8. The office at 239 Pipestone street, Benton Harbor, is adjacent to OK Electric at 243 Pipestone. Hours for selling auto license plates will be 9-5 daily, except Wednesdays and Saturdays which are 9-1. (Staff photo)

BH Commission Adopts Resolution Of Sympathy

Benton Harbor city commission last night passed a resolution of sympathy on the death of former President Harry S. Truman.

The motion was made by Commissioner F. Joseph Flaugh who said he knew Mr.

Truman personally, had ridden on his campaign train and visited him in Independence. Flaugh called Mr. Truman "a great president ... a great man, a humble man, a people's man."

Flaugh's motion also called

for city flags to be flown at half mast for 30 days in accordance with President Nixon's proclamation for federal buildings.

The commission resolution will be sent to Mrs. Bess Truman at Independence, Mo.

Area Federal Offices Close On Thursday

Post offices, the draft board and all other federal government offices in southwestern Michigan will be closed all day Thursday as part of the day of mourning for former President Truman.

State and county governmental offices, however, will be open as usual, according to the heads of various such agencies in the area.

Federal offices will close at the order of President Nixon, who ordered federal offices closed across the U.S. and flags flown at half staff during a national day of mourning. The offices will reopen Friday.

Don Jewell Going To FBI School

Chief Deputy Don Jewell of the Berrien sheriff's department, will start a three month training session at the FBI academy at Quantico, Va.

Jewell will begin the training on Jan. 7. According to Sheriff Forrest (Nick) Jewell, the session is "an overall police training course for command officers."

Jewell will remain at the sheriff's department on completion of the course.



CUM LAUDE: Mrs. Jack (Sandra Jean) Gnevuch, 6754 Bayview drive, Coloma, has graduated from Western Michigan university, Kalamazoo, with the honors designation "cum laude." Cum laude at WMU signifies achievement of a 3.5 to 3.69 grades average on a 4.0 scale.

H-P Fund Goes Over \$5,000

United Steelworkers of America, Local 6264 sent the Herald-Press Good Fellow fund over the \$5,000 mark with \$50 worth of "Merry Christmas" on Christmas eve.

The \$50 goes into the Good Fellow emergency fund used throughout the year and to start the 1973 fund.

Financial secretary Gerald V. Dwan wished all a Merry Christmas and a peaceful New Year "on behalf of all our members."

The \$50 coupled with \$1,000.91 in advanced gifts and \$3,067.40 raised in the successful new sale of Dec. 15 puts the fund at \$5,018.31.

IRS Will Help Taxpayers With Their 1972 Returns

Taxpayers in the Benton Harbor area can obtain assistance with their 1972 Federal income tax returns Monday through Friday each week at the IRS office here starting Jan. 2, James Millegan local district director's representative, said today.

Internal Revenue Service personnel will be available to provide Federal income tax information from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Benton Harbor office is located at First Floor Federal Bldg., Territorial road & Sixth street.

Millegan suggested that many taxpayers will be able to obtain answers to their questions by phone. The assistance phone number in Benton Harbor is 616-927-3507.

In announcing taxpayer service days, Millegan noted that many taxpayers will be able to use the new "short form" 1040A, which the IRS reintroduced this year. The IRS estimated that about 30 million taxpayers will be able to use the half-page form.

Taxpayers using the Form 1040 should also find their returns easier to prepare due to the more simplified language used in the instructions this year Millegan said.

He also reminded taxpayers that the IRS may be able to compute the tax for individuals if they make less than \$20,000, take the standard deduction, and fill in certain portions of the return. The information required is explained in the Form 1040 and 1040A instruction booklets.

Millegan reminded taxpayers who plan to pay someone to prepare their return that the law requires the person to sign the form as preparer. The new forms also include a line for the preparer's Social Security or identification number.

Taxpayers who pay to have their returns prepared should be careful to select a qualified preparer, Millegan said.



SEARCH FOR FLAMES: Benton Harbor firemen battle blaze at vacant house at 770 East Main street at 12:36 a.m. today. Fire was second in vacant house in as many days, as Benton township firemen put out fire in vacant house in 900 block of East Main Monday morning. This fire started in basement storage of undetermined cause, inflicted considerable damage to basement, stairway, and hall. Rest of house sustained extensive heat and smoke damage. While fighting fire, Lt. James Means sustained cut finger, and received two stitches at Mercy hospital. House is owned by Sammie Rodgers of Sodus. (David Arndt photo)

South Haven Eyes Public Housing Sale

*Dwellings For Low Income Families
Called 'Community Liability'*

SOUTH HAVEN — The city housing commission has been directed to investigate the possibility of selling its low-income public housing project.

The directive was presented to the commission last night in a letter from Mayor Richard Lewis to Tom Renner, housing commission chairman and a member of the city council.

The mayor said in the letter that the council learned of parties interested in purchasing the 50 units of low income housing on the city's south side. The city has managed the federally-supported program since 1969.

"At an executive session of the city council on December 18, it was brought to our at-

tention that there may be parties interested in purchasing the 50 units of low income housing," the mayor said in his letter.

"This matter was discussed only briefly, but the council members present were unanimously in agreement to seek out further information immediately and to proceed

with the sale of the units if it seemed in the best interests of the city and tenants.

"Therefore, please take action at your next housing meeting to investigate this matter; also please assume that this means setting a price on the project, down payment, interest rate, and other necessary terms as well as having a meeting with the interested parties.

"The council will expect a report on the housing commission's progress at the council's next meeting in January."

Lewis was out of the city today and unavailable for further comment.

Interest in possible sale was spawned by Herman Friedman, housing commission member, who said that a firm in Chicago had initiated an inquiry through him.

"It's time that we found a way to get rid of this community liability (the low income project)," he told the commission.

Friedman listed four reasons today for giving serious consideration to sale of the project.

He said the city would increase its tax base if the units were in private ownership; that the city should get out of the real estate business; that under private ownership the tenants occupying units would be required to pay rent when it's due and not be delinquent, and that also under private ownership the tenants would be required to take care of the units as they should be.

Executive director Dennis DeVinney said that he has asked officials at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to provide information relative to the sale of public housing projects to private developers.

Renner urged members of the commission to examine the whole concept of public housing instead of the idea of creating a commercial venture.

"This project program was created to help assist persons who were unable to find adequate housing through private sources," he said.

He cautioned the commission that HUD might also require the city to sell its senior citizens public housing apartment building to private enterprise.

"It might not be a decision of keeping the good and getting rid of the so-called bad," he said.

Renner said that operationally the low income housing project has been self-supporting.

In other action the commission approved the hiring of Omer Williams of route 5, South Haven as a fulltime maintenance man at an annual salary of \$7,500.

DeVinney informed the commissioners that the Van Buren Department of Social Services has agreed to increase the monthly shelter (housing) allowance for public assistance recipients in the low-income housing program from \$46 to \$76.

DeVinney noted that he is continuing to negotiate with the county agency to have the allowance increased to be competitive with the amount a tenant would receive if he were paying for housing in the private market.

The commission, by a 3-1 vote, approved extending certain fringe benefits to the director's new secretary even though she is working only 20 hours a week. The secretary will receive one half the number of paid holidays, sick leave and vacation. Commissioner James Faux cast the only dissenting vote on the grounds that the policy did not conform to personnel policy for city of South Haven employees. In favor were Renner and commissioners Friedman, and Miss Carol Jensen.



ADMITTED TO BAR: John Robert Runyan, Jr., 25, of Flint, is admitted to practice law in Michigan Tuesday by Judge Chester J. Byrns of Berrien circuit court. With him are his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Runyan of 848 Wisconsin, St. Joseph. Young Runyan, 1965 graduate of St. Joseph high school and 1972 graduate of Wayne State

university law school, will spend next year and a half as law clerk to U.S. District Judge Stephen J. Roth of Detroit school bus ruling fame. The new lawyer was sponsored for admission by Atty. Joseph D. Hartwig of Benton Harbor. (Staff photo).

Bangor Ordinance Controls Growth Of Subdivisions

BANGOR — An ordinance to regulate growth and development of subdivisions in Bangor was adopted last night by the city council.

The ordinance is designed to provide for "orderly growth and harmonious development" with the community and in-

cludes provisions for traffic, lot size, water, drainage, sewer facilities and also requirements that developers plan for adequate school, recreation and other public facilities.

Council also accepted the resignation of Duane Goss as fire chief and appointed assistant chief Ralph Lowder to replace him. Goss, who will continue with the fire department as assistant chief, told council in a letter that he had accepted a new position with the state that would prevent him from continuing as chief.

In other business, council accepted the high bid of \$655 from Art Sherrod for purchase of a 1971 model police car from the city; hired Kenneth Yaeke, Portage, as a police officer to replace Richard Schlieter, who resigned; and tabled for fur-



DEGREE WINNER: Gerald Herdman, an assistant professor of history at Andrews University in Berrien Springs, has received his doctorate degree in history from the University of Maryland. He has been on the AU faculty since 1959.

ther study a request from the Van Buren county library for a new contract with the city for the Bangor branch.

August Janoskie, housing commission member whose term is expiring, notified council that he will be unable to continue. No successor was named.

Commission Meeting Canceled

BUCHANAN — Because of the lack of a quorum, last night's scheduled meeting of the Buchanan city commission was cancelled.

The commission will next meet Jan. 8.

South Berrien Sewer Pact Signing Ends Long Delay

NEW BUFFALO — A contract required to get the \$10-12 million sanitary sewer project for the townships of Chikaming and New Buffalo and New Buffalo city moving has been signed.

Officials of the townships which had approved the pact some time ago, signed the document last night.

City officials who had balked at entering into the agreement until earlier this month signed the pact Friday. City reluctance had delayed the project for a year and had threatened

pending state and federal grants amounting to about \$4 million earmarked for the project.

Herbert Seeder, Chikaming township supervisor and chairman of the Berrien public works board (BPW) said the contract would be considered by the BPW today.

The contract binds the three municipalities to finance local share of the cost of building a \$2.5 million sewage treatment plant for the system. The city is to pay 50 per cent of the \$790,000 cost while the two townships

will split the remaining 50 per cent.

The balance would come from state and federal sources.

Costs involved in the rest of the project stem from collection systems to be built to serve the communities.

The contract asks that the county issue bonds through the BPW to finance the local share immediately. If approved by the BPW, the proposed \$790,000 bond issue package would be submitted to the county board for approval.



ADDITIONAL DONATION: A benefactor of the preschool story program at River Valley schools headquartered in Three Oaks has added \$175 to his or her personal support of the program. School officials said gift boosted donation from individual to \$1,583 over past several years. They said they knew identity of person but had been asked to withhold name. Money is earmarked for purchase of books for use in program. Left to right with check covering latest donation are Marie Sivak, library coordinator; David Burdette, elementary supervisor; and Harold Sauser, schools superintendent. Sauser said gifts had purchased 555 books. "We are extremely grateful," he said in letter.

Fifteen-Man Board Meets Last Time In Van Buren

By STEVE McQUOWN

PAW PAW — Van Buren county's 15-man board of commissioners met here yesterday for their last scheduled meeting of 1972.

Adjournment of the hour-and-one-half meeting marked the end of two-year terms for eight commissioners defeated in the elections or who did not seek re-election.

Adjournment also marked the end of the 15-man board which has ruled county affairs since 1969. Mandatory re-

apportionment to insure better population balance among the districts sliced the number of districts, and commissioners, from 15 to nine.

The nine-man-board takes office Jan. 1 and will meet for the first time on Jan. 2 at the courthouse.

The board met yesterday to approve payment of county bills and to make adjustments in the 1972 budget to satisfy accounting regulations.

The board also paid \$3,361, worth of bills the county library system said it could not meet.

The board previously pledged to pay 1972 bills the library could not pay.

Those defeated in the elections, and not returning as board members are Bernard Johnson of Grand Junction, Donald Goodwillie Sr. of South Haven, Frank Kolesar of Covert, Fred Zook of Bangor, John Tapper and Charles Sage of Paw Paw, and Willard Rumsey of Almena. Daniel Fox of Decatur did not seek re-election.

Incumbent commissioners returning are Gerald Rendel of

Gobles, William Taft of South Haven, Leonard Markstrom of South Haven township, Waldo Dick of Lawrence, Boyd Estes of Hartford, Donald Hanson of Hamilton township, and Lloyd Martin of Lawton.

Newly-elected commissioners are Walter Stickels of Bangor and George Fritz of Bloomingdale.

The incumbents and newly-elected commissioners, along with other county officials elected in November, were given the oath of office in ceremonies at the courthouse Tuesday.



MR. AND MRS. RICHARD DUDAS

Queen Committee Leaders Named By Blossomtime

Co-chairmen of Blossomtime's central queen's committee for 1973 are Richard (Bud) and Sally Dudas of Fairplain and Richard N. and Kay Ward of Stevensville.

Announcement was made today by James Barrieklow, president of Blossomtime, Inc., who said the central queen's committee coordinates community queen contests and the Miss Blossomtime pageant. The committee also is responsible for planning goodwill trips for the queens.

Mr. and Mrs. Dudas and Mr. and Mrs. Ward are arranging the annual community chairman's dinner which will be held Wednesday Jan. 10, at Benton Harbor Holiday Inn.

Thirty southwestern Michigan communities have been invited to the event where information

will be distributed on queen contests and the Blossomtime Festival. Professional float builders also will be in attendance.

Ward is branch manager in southwestern Michigan for R. O. Whitesell and Associates, representatives for electronic component manufacturers. His wife, Kay, is a registered nurse.

The Wards have been on the central queen's committee two years. Last year they assisted with the key to the cities tour, the Miss Blossomtime pageant and evaluation of area queen contests.

Dudas is owner of Sodus IGA and his wife, Sally, is proprietor of Milady's Shoppe in St. Joseph. Dudas has been active in Sodus Blossomtime 11 years.



MR. AND MRS. RICHARD WARD

Mr. and Mrs. Dudas were founders of the Blossomtime youth dance and also have served on the Blossomtime fashion show committee, central queen's and Grand Floral Ball committees.

Barrieklow reported all area queen contests must be held by April 2. The Miss Blossomtime pageant is slated for Monday, April 16. The Blossomtime Festival will be April 29 through May 5.

Traffic Deaths

Dec. 27 State Police Count
This year 2,215
Last Year 2,120

Coloma Commissioner Has Plan For 'Sharing' Funds

COLOMA — A Coloma city commission member outlined plans for using this city's federal revenue sharing funds to upgrade the city's water system last night.

Fred Munchow, of the commission's water committee, told the commission that upgrading would involve installing a 1,000 foot extension from the water tower on Center street to Washington and Park streets and then replacing a four-inch line at Washington and Park with an eight-inch line to Wilson road.

Munchow said the first part of the upgrading, the 1,000 foot of 12-inch pipe, would cost about \$20,000 and be financed from this year's federal revenue sharing funds.

According to officials, the city has already received a check for \$8,889 and expects to get a second check for the same amount in about three weeks.

Munchow indicated that the federal funds expected in the next five years should be used for water system upgrading.

Earlier this year, city officials were informed by a

water system study that some \$750,000 worth of improvements were needed. An investigation into federal aid available then revealed that only 50 per cent of the costs could be underwritten by existing federal programs.

In other areas, commissioners denied a request from Rev. Elvin Harden of the Midway Baptist church to hold musical concerts at Baker or Randall parks during the summer.

The commission approved condemnation proceedings

against the Joseph Rossman property, 140 North street, after the Building Inspector Norman Carrothers and Health Officer Joseph Reeves ruled the structure a nuisance and a danger to residents.

City Assessor Marvin Taylor reported to the commission that he had passed the tax assessment examination, and was granted approval to attend a 22-week training session at Southwestern Michigan college for further study of assessing methods, with the city paying the tuition fee.